

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

744 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814



April 12, 1988

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE NO. 1-21-88

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: RECLASSIFICATION OF REFUGEE MINORS TO UNACCOMPANIED MINOR STATUS

REFERENCE: ALL-COUNTY LETTER NO. 86-86

The Federal Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has notified the Department of Social Services (DSS) that County Welfare Department (CWD) requests for reclassification of refugee minors to Unaccompanied Minors (UMs) must be channeled through the State rather than sent directly from the CWD to ORR. In other words, only State agency reclassification requests will be considered for approval by ORR.

In order for a refugee minor to be reclassified to UM status, all of the following conditions must be met on a case-by-case basis.

1. The child does not have, and has not had at any time since the child's arrival in the United States, a parent living in the United States.
2. A nonparental relative or nonrelated adult has never had legal custody of the child in the United States.
3. The child is one who entered the United States accompanied by a nonparental relative or nonrelated adult, or who entered the United States for the purpose of joining a nonparental relative or nonrelated adult, and is not living in the home of such relative or adult.
4. An appropriate court has placed legal responsibility for the child with a local welfare agency or with a licensed nonpublic agency which is under contract with the State to provide services to refugee UMs.
5. A Refugee and Entrant Unaccompanied Minor Placement Report (Form ORR-3) has been submitted to the DSS. (See All-County Letter No. 86-86 dated September 4, 1986 for instructions on the purpose and completion of the ORR-3.)


The reclassification request and ORR-3 form must be submitted to:

Ms. Laura Williams, Chief
Refugee Programs Policy
and Systems Bureau
744 P Street, MS 5-610
Sacramento, CA 95814

Counties will be notified of ORR approval of their requests when such approval is received by DSS.

If you have any questions regarding the instructions contained in this letter, please contact you County Refugee Program Operations Analyst at (916) 323-2131.

Sincerely,



ROBERT A. HOREL
Deputy Director
Welfare Program Division

cc: Dr. Sharon Fujii
CWDA